

REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN AND OTHER TOWN OFFICERS
OF
CHARLESTOWN, N. H.
INCLUDING THE REPORTS OF THE
Superintending School Committee,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1873.

CLAREMONT, N. H.
PRINTED BY THE CLAREMONT MANUFACTURING COMPANY.
1873.

State of New-Hampshire.

L. S. To the inhabitants of the town of Charlestown, qualified to vote in town affairs.

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall, in said town, on the second Tuesday of March next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.
2. To bring in your votes for Governor, Railroad Commissioner, Councillor, Senator, Register of Deeds, County Treasurer and County Commissioner.
3. To bring in your votes for Representative in Congress in District number three.
4. To choose one or more Representatives to represent said town in the General Court to be held at Concord on the first Wednesday of June next.
5. To choose all necessary Town Officers and Agents for the year ensuing.
6. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary for the support of schools, for the maintenance of the poor, for laying out and repairing highways and building and repairing bridges, and for other necessary charges arising within the town.
7. To see if the town will vote to pay the highway tax, in money, the ensuing year, and direct the Selectmen to appoint an agent or agents to superintend the laying out the same.
8. To see if the town will vote to sell the Town Farm, and appoint an agent to convey the same.
9. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to enforce the Prohibitory Law in regard to the sale of intoxicating liquors.
10. To see what measures the town will take to obtain a history of the town, and see if the town will appropriate any sum of money, and how much, for that purpose.
11. To see if the town will authorize the Selectmen or its Agent to allow the Charlestown Brass Band the use of the Hall a few nights during the year, without expense to the town.
12. To see if the town will authorize the Selectmen to sell and convey by deed of quit claim in common form, any interest which it may have in the Mill property and water privilege known as the Hall's Mills property, and prescribe the terms and conditions of such conveyance.

Given under our hands and seals, this twenty-fourth day of February, A. D. 1873.

EBEN H. TIDD, } *Selectmen of*
R. W. ROBERTSON, } *Charlestown.*

REPORTS

OF THE OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN,

FOR THE YEAR

Ending March 1, 1873.

Report of the Selectmen.

The town, at their annual meeting in 1872, voted to raise the following sums :

State tax,	\$2,088 00
County tax,	2,341 47
Schools,	2,436 00
Roads and bridges,	500 00
Town officers,	800 00
Paupers,	1,000 00
Interest on Town debt,	2 000 00
Incidentals,	600 00
Cemeteries,	200 00
Highways,	2,000 00
Total,	—————\$13,965 47

GEORGE OLCOTT, *Treasurer*,

In account with the Town, March, 1872.

Dr.

Balance, March 1872,	\$ 9 03
State of N. H. war expenditures,	25 00
County paupers,	856 80
Charles Gay, note paid,	44 70
E. H. Tidd, town farm oxen,	200 00

Savings Bank tax,	1,216 05
Railroad tax,	221 77
Literary Fund,	144 90
Cash borrowed,	7,982 00
Benjamin Whipple, taxes,	8,060 35
	<hr/>
	\$18,760 60

Cr.

By orders paid as follows :

Schools,	\$2,186 42
Roads and bridges,	1,263 24
Town paupers,	844 39
County paupers,	1,172 63
Town Farm,	1,169 09
Incidentals,	1,204 30
Cemetery,	769 40
Town debt,	9,322 70
Town officers,	742 50
Balance due town,	85 93
	<hr/>
	\$18,760 60

COLLECTOR'S ACCOUNT.

BENJAMIN WHIPPLE, in account with Charlestown.

Dr.

March 1, 1873.	Balance on old bills,	\$ 400 00
	Tax bill for 1872,	12,443 60
	Interest,	46 22
		<hr/>
		\$12,889 82

Cr.

Paid State tax,	\$2088 00
" County tax,	2341 47
" George Olcott,	8060 35
Balance due town,	400 00
	<hr/>
	\$12,889 82

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN,

In account with Town Hall Committee.

Cr.

1872.

Mar. 2, Balance,	\$ 2560 00
By \$13,300, State Bonds at par, and interest,	13,564 01
By interest on deposits,	330 12
	<hr/> \$16,454 13

Dr.

1872.

Jan. 2, Telegram,	\$ 33
" 6, J. H. Dickey, surveying,	5 00
" 16, E. Dow, plans,	103 00
J. C. Stebbins, auctioneer,	1 00
" 20, Telegram,	35
" 24, Team to Acworth,	2 00
Feb. 6, E. Dow, new plans,	66 87
Express on plans,	1 20
Apr. 19, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. brokerage on Bonds,	34 62
E. Dow, expenses and time,	17 90
" 22, E. L. Cushing, drawing deeds, etc.,	5 00
May 24, " " "	4 00
Rev. stamps and recording,	3 40
Jun. 10, Moving Cooley's buildings,	134 78
Sep. 16, Printing bill,	2 75
Dec. 5, G. S. Bond, furnaces,	500 00
" 26, R. Robertson, coal,	25 16
1873.	
Feb. 28, S. P. Osgood, timber,	5 00
Paid A. P. Clifford,	13,500 00
	<hr/> \$14,412 36

Balance due the Town,	\$2,041 77
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GEORGE OLCOTT,

For the Committee.

March 1, 1873.

SCHOOLS.

Geo. W. Kilburn,	Dis. No. 1,	78 17
Geo. W. Kilburn,	" " 1,	6 75
Horace Hull,	" " 2 and 3,	408 54
" "	" " 2 and 3,	21 36
H. N. Dodge,	" " 4,	122 00
O. Smith,	" " 5,	129 14
Martin Merrill,	" " 6,	13 95
Gardner Way,	" " 6,	94 46
Henry C. Johnson,	" " 7,	81 75
J. H. Baldwin,	" " 9,	60 00
Chas. R. Snow,	" " 11,	56 75
Thos. D. Parish,	" " 12,	71 06
" "	" " 12,	35 00
Gardner S. Wood,	" " 13,	91 11
Chas. R. Snow,	" "	15 00
Gardner S. Wood,	" " 13,	70 00
Gardner Way,	" " 6,	85 00
Josiah White,	" " 2 and 3,	5 34
Geo. W. Kilburn,	" " 1,	50 50
H. C. Johnson,	" " 7,	50 00
Alvah C. Way,	" " 14,	55 00
Jas. H. Baldwin,	" " 9,	75 00
Eugene DeNormandie,	(committee)	92 00
Horace Hull, Jr.,		304 00
Chas. R. Snow,		60 00
Horace Hull		14 04
Chas. Gay,	Dis. No. 5,	65 00
H. H. Miller,	" " 8,	66 00

\$ 2276 92

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Michael Maney,	11 00
Lucian Lane,	13 60
Erastus O. Walker,	47 00
Horace Metcalf,	10 85
Henry Locke,	18 25
J. J. Hubbard,	15 00
K. C. Woods,	25 00
B. W. Putnam,	30 00

Lewis Lane,	30 00
Geo. H. Leet,	8 60
Aaron Clark,	46 00
William Putnam,	50 50
Chas. Gay,	90 93
Cornelius Callahan,	25 00
James Frost,	13 50
Mark Lane,	16 20
Wilbra Bailey,	2 00
Henry W. Hooper,	20 05
Metcalf & Hamlin,	7 50
R. W. Robertson,	8 50
Geo. W. Bailey,	37 80
David S. Hamlin,	4 50
Levi Heywood,	17 30
Hiram Green,	5 00
Ryley Goodall,	4 00
Alvin Frost,	26 10
Benjamin F. Marshall,	4 00
R. W. Robertson,	7 00
Oren Smith,	9 50
John Giffin,	12 80
C. C. Kimball,	6 40
Jarvis Walker,	23 90
Ashbel Hamlin,	3 00
O. E. Fiske,	16 50
Michael Maney,	12 00
Wm. H. Kean,	33 60
N. W. Locke,	28 90
Chas. Gay,	4 40
S. P. Osgood,	8 00
Wilson Fiske,	41 90
Saml. Putnam, Jr.,	37 35
Aaron Clark,	5 50
Joel Ward,	12 50
G. H. Leet,	1 58
Leonard S. Fairbanks,	12 30
Lewis Gay,	4 00
R. W. Robertson,	20 22
Sam'l E. Gowing,	34 69
Jas. Milliken,	6 12
Josiah White,	75 00
Kimball C. Woods,	1 35 00

Frank Kennedy,	4 00
Orin E. Fiske,	4 40
Michael Maney,	7 20
Jas. Lyons,	2 00
Alvah C. Way,	13 10
N. L. Adams,	5 45
Sam'l Putnam, Jr.,	28 50
Geo. G. Bowen,	18 00
N. L. Kennedy,	13 40

\$ 1236 39

TOWN PAUPERS.

L. H. Royce & Co.,	13 11
L. H. Royce & Co.,	19 14
J. M. Whitaker,	82 00
“ “	20 25
D. C. Moore,	8 45
Town of Walpole,	16 50
E. H. Tidd,	7 50
Chas. Willard,	7 50
Oren Bradford,	4 42
“ “	1 70
S. H. Grinnell,	3 00
Sam'l Webber,	12 50
O Smith & Co.,	1 49
Chas. Gay,	1 31
Mrs. John Corbin,	8 28
C. C. Chadborn,	30 00
N. H. Insane Asylum,	115 63
Mrs. John Corbin,	12 00
J. P. Bancroft,	114 15
Mrs. Caroline Corbin,	28 25
Wm. Putnam,	25 00
Chas. Gay,	2 50
John M. Glidden,	20 42
Mrs. John Corbin,	27 00
Wm. Putnam,	22 00
Mrs. Chas. L. Hunt,	10 00
J. P. Baneroft,	51 45
Metcalf & Hamlin,	6 71
Bridget Titer,	2 50

C. C. Chadborn,	78 00
J. P. Bancroft,	51 40
J. M. Whitaker,	30 00
Sam'l Webber,	31 50
H. Tucker,	18 00
Thos. B. Melville,	4 00
E. H. Tidd,	9 00
W. H. Labaree,	17 33
J. M. Whitaker,	10 50

\$ 924 49

COUNTY PAUPERS.

H. C. Ellenwood,	23 57
J. B. Dinsmoor,	6 10
L. H. Royce & Co.,	20 25
J. M. Whitaker,	54 00
D. C. Moore,	5 45
C. Walker,	53 00
E. H. Tidd,	7 50
O. Bradford,	2 35
Wm. Hamlin,	3 50
H. B. Viall,	8 00
O. Smith & Co.,	11 35
S. P. Osgood,	3 00
State Reform School,	26 00
Edward Cooley,	1 00
J. M. Whitaker,	205 00
L. H. Royce & Co.,	32 46
Sarah J. Coat,	39 00
Alvah C. Way,	12 43
J. M. Whitaker,	4 00
D. S. Hamlin,	7 50
Thos. Maloney,	10 50
Wm. Putnam,	3 00
R. W. Robertson,	103 69
Metcalf & Hamlin,	5 00
E. H. Tidd,	7 50
E. H. Tidd,	11 00
State Reform School,	26 00
J. B. Dinsmoor,	3 00

J. M. Whitaker,	64 00
“ “	4 50
“ “	28 75
L. H. Royce & Co.,	5 85
Thos. Maloney,	5 21
H. B. Viall,	1 00
John M. Glidden,	6 83
“ “	4 00
“ “	5 00
“ “	17 00
E. H. Tidd,	3 00
“ “	1 12
R. W. Robertson,	1 00
Mrs. Erastus Derby,	2 00
Thos. Maloney,	11 50
J. B. Dinsmoor,	18 50
S. J. Madigan,	2 00
Briggs & Co.,	6 10
Mrs B. W. Putnam,	3 25
Jane Madigan,	20 00
Josephine Miller,	13 50
C. B. Bailey,	1 20
Metcalf & Hamlin,	13 78
O Smith & Co.,	8 30
“ “	10 80
D. G. Stoughton,	16 35
Josephine Miller	15 00
Sarah J. Madigan,	25 00
Mrs. Jane Madigan,	10 00
State Reform School,	26 00
“ “	26 00
T. B. Lovell,	1 50
W. H. Labaree,	12 46

1085 55

TRANSIENT PAUPERS.

D. G. Stoughton,	3 00
J. B. Dinsmoor,	8 30
“	6 40

\$ 17 70

TOWN FARM.

H. C. Ellenwood,	10 50
O. Smith & Co.,	5 80
George H. Powers,	20 00
C. C. Chadborn,	12 00
Oren Smith,	15 00
Hazen Barnard,	87 50
“	35 00
Lyman Buswell,	195 00
A. P. Clifford,	10 50
Charles Gay,	70 02
Erastus O. Walker,	175 00
William Putnam,	28 00
Metcalf & Hamlin,	12 14
Hazen Barnard,	150 00
Hyland & Dodge,	200 00
John W. Ferguson,	5 25
Horace B. Wing,	20 00
G. S. Bond,	67
H. Barnard,	49 00
J. M. Whitaker,	10 50
	<hr/> \$ 1,111 88

INCIDENTAL.

H. C. Ellenwood,	3 33
“	99 01
E. H. Tidd,	14 25
Wilbur F. Merrill,	36 00
Brooks Kimball,	3 00
F. G. Willard,	52 76
Joseph Burt,	14 00
Samuel Webber,	2 00
C. C. Kimball,	10 00
“	9 16
S. H. Grinnell,	3 00
N. B. Hull,	3 00
R. Robertson,	3 20
E. L. Cushing,	30 00
Ebenezer Dinsmoor,	3 00
Claremont Man'f'g. Co.,	15 00
Alvin Frost,	1 25
John Seaver,	2 00

E. H. Tidd,	9 00
David W. Parks,	3 10
J. W. Robinson,	25 00
Samuel N. Corbin,	10 30
J. W. Robinson,	25 00
W. H. Labaree,	22 12
Wilbra Bailey,	7 50
Charles Gay,	56 65
F. Chase,	7 98
J. W. Robinson,	112 50
J. Marshall Crosby,	35 74
E. H. Tidd,	22 60
J. W. Robinson,	112 50
E. H. Tidd,	9 00
Benj. Whipple,	3 75
E. E. Benns,	205 00
John M. Glidden,	2 25
P. S. Hutchings,	2 25
Claremont Man'g. Co.,	11 75
“ “	35 00
E. L. Cushing,	37 71
G. S. Bond,	4 74
G. W. Hoyt,	6 00
B. W. Putman, Abatement of Taxes,	10 26
B. Whipple, Collector,	143 14
	<hr/> \$ 1,224 80

CEMETERIES.

Darius Eaton,	6 41
J. Marshall Crosby,	14 25
Charles Willard,	20 40
William J. Stevens,	12 60
Horace Metcalf (Hope Hill),	36 63
“ “	516 62
“ “	90 00
Horace Hull (Fountain Hill),	82 62
	<hr/> \$ 779 53

TOWN OFFICERS.

Alvin Frost,	2 50
H. C. Ellenwood,	102 00
George Olcott,	50 00

S. P. Osgood,	35 00
C. C. Kimball,	40 00
E. H. Tidd,	226 00
R. W. Robertson,	175 00
B. Whipple,	112 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 742 50

SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

Isaac Miles,	5 00
Samuel E. Gowen,	18 00
Riley Goodell,	15 00
T. B. Lovell,	16 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 54 00

TOWN DEBT.

Joseph C. Colby,	211 26
David Holton,	183 73
Milan W. Quimby,	343 83
Milan W. Quimby,	72 00
Martha A. Hubbard,	27 00
E. L. Holton,	418 52
Conn. River Savings Bank,	1636 53
R. J. Davenport,	60 00
S. Webber,	60 00
J. J. Hubbard,	30 00
Curtis Bradford,	100 00
Conn. River Savings Bank,	1005 00
J. J. Hubbard,	90 00
Conn. River Savings Bank,	1034 16
Rhoda Green,	30 00
“	1015 00
Conn. River Savings Bank,	1004 67
Alonzo Jackman,	354 50
Abby M. Cram,	30 00
F. Way, Adm'r,	2 00
Nancy Tarble,	22 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,730 07

D. C. MOORE, LIQUOR AGENT,

To CHARLESTOWN, Dr.

To amount of liquor received from former agent,	117 17	
" of cash received for liquors,	762 04	
	<hr/>	879 21

Cr.

By amount paid for liquor,	662 04	
" Salary,	100 00	762 04
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance in agent's hands,		117 17

It will be seen by the report of 1872 that the amount of liquor delivered to the former agent, A. H. Fisher, was appraised at \$212 17, while the amount of liquor delivered by said agent to D. C. Moore, is \$117 17, from which it would appear that there has been a loss to the town of \$95.

ACCOUNT OF THE TOWN FARM.

TOWN FARM.

Cr.

By amount of produce and stock sold,	446 22
" due for boarding stock,	125 00
" support of paupers,	396 06
" value of permanent repairs,	125 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,092 28

TOWN FARM.

Dr.

To amount of O. Smith & Co's., bill—paid,	42 09
" Metcalf & Hamlin's bill—paid,	123 36
" paid for groceries, tools and help,	322 83
" for repairing buildings,	125 00
" salary of H. Barnard, overseer,	350 00
" interest on cost of farm,	180 00
" amount paid for grain,	49 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1092 28

In addition to the amounts received for the above account it is understood that J. M. Glidden received for stock sold \$ 236 from which deduct amount supposed to be due to him for his services as selectman, and for stock furnished, say, \$ 146, which leaves a balance of \$ 90 due from his estate.

TOWN INDEBTEDNESS, MARCH 6, 1873.

Note No. 7	1800 00
11	700 00
13	1000 00
14	1500 00
15	500 00
16	8000 00
18	5100 00
20	500 00
21	375 00
25	1200 00
27	1000 00
32	1000 00
33	1000 00
34	450 00
40	400 00
41	200 00
42	1000 00
44	350 00
45	3000 00
47	1000 00
48	70 00
49	762 00
50	200 00
51	300 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 31,407 00

By comparing this statement with last year's it will be seen that the Town debt has increased by \$ 1,232, while it will appear that the the assets of the Town have been increased by the Town Hall.

ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

Town Farm,	\$ 3500 00
Amount of Personal Property on Town Farm,	2253 75
Balance in liquor agent's hands,	117 17
Taxes due from B. Whipple, Collector,	400 00
Gravel Pits,	100 00
Safe,	100 00
Claim against Claremont Bank,	393 85
" Newport Bank,	57 28
Cash in the Treasury,	85 93
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,007 98

The Selectmen recommend the raising of the following sums for the ensuing year :

State Tax,	4536 00
County Tax,	2859 14
Schools,	2436 00
Roads and Bridges,	600 00
Town Officers,	800 00
Paupers,	1000 00
Interest on Town Debt,	2000 00
Incidentals,	600 00
Cemeteries,	200 00
Highways,	2000 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 17,031 14

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. H. TIDD,	} <i>Selectmen of</i>
R. W. ROBERTSON.	
	<i>Charlestown.</i>

We certify that we have examined the statements by the Selectmen. We find them correct, properly vouched, the orders all paid, and that we believe the statement of assets and liabilities of the town is made in good faith and correct.

By order of the Committee.

E. L. CUSHING.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF
CHARLESTOWN, N. H.,
For the year ending March 1, 1873.

THE Superintendent of the Public Schools submits to the citizens of Charlestown the following Report.

Several of the Schools have not yet closed ; the Registers have not been returned to the Committee, and the Report must necessarily be an imperfect one.

An enthusiast on the subject of farming, was once speaking in exalted terms of that vocation. The friend with whom he was conversing remarked, in a general way, that agriculture was an important business. "*Important? Why,*" said the farmer, "*it is perfectly overwhelming!*" If I should assert that the teacher's vocation is important, and the cause of education is a great one, we might all reply, with the fine enthusiasm of the farmer, "*They are perfectly overwhelming!*" And yet, with all our high appreciation of the worth of education, we do very little for our Schools, and have very little interest in them. Such an amount of money, as is thought necessary, is raised by the citizens ; a school committee is chosen ; teachers are engaged, and the schools are taught—sometimes well, sometimes ill.

The School-year begins : children assemble, the teacher appears ; the committee follow after ; the school is organized for work ; and we

fondly imagine something worthy of the preparation and the occasion will be done. But in how many of the schools we fail to see the good results that we anticipated !

While some have been admirably taught, through the year, some also have been poorly taught. In some of the schools there were great preparations made, but nothing done ; a great show and noise, and perpetual grinding, but no grist.

There has been this year, probably, about the usual amount of grumbling, and fault-finding, and unfair criticism of teachers and schools, from persons who did not visit the schools and were entirely ignorant of their condition.

One thing detrimental to the schools in this town, is the fact, that many of the best families have never had confidence in them. It has been popular to speak disparagingly of the schools ; and in this way an influence has been exerted against them. Another reason may be given why the schools are not of a higher order : it is the penny-wise and pound-foolish policy that has been pursued. There has not been sufficient money raised to enable committees to procure *good* teachers ; and for this reason cheap teachers are usually engaged. But the cheap teachers are really the most expensive that the town can employ. They receive the town's money, without doing the town's work.

A good school of six weeks, kept by a skilful, competent teacher, is more beneficial than a poor one kept for six months.

REPORT OF SCHOOLS IN THEIR ORDER.

District No. 1.—The school in this District, especially during the Winter Term, was one of the very best in the town. The Summer Term, of nine weeks, was taught by ADDIE M. BAKER. The school appeared well when visited by the Committee. But there was no marked progress nor deep interest in studies. The Winter Term was taught by LOUISA M. DINSMOOR. This was such a school as one delights to visit. It could be seen, at a glance, that every pupil was interested in study, and in the work of the school-room.

Miss Dinsmoor succeeded, where so many teachers fail, in securing the attention of the whole class during a recitation. The pupils were

all expectant, with minds awake, ready to hear, to recite, or to learn some new thing. In no other school in the town were there more evident signs of careful teaching and progress than here. The order was excellent, the instruction thorough and earnest, and there was noticeable progress in all the studies pursued. There was a class in History that would have been an honor to any high school. The progress in reading and writing was very marked. Attention was given to the older scholars, and the younger were not neglected.

Report of Combined Districts, 2 and 3, will be found at the close of this Report.

District No. 4.—The school in this District has been taught, through the year, by HENRY W. JONES. It was a happy thought of the Prudential Committee, Mr. Dodge, to secure Mr. Jones for the year. This school has been very much interrupted by sickness. The Spring Term commenced favorably, but was brought to a speedy termination by the appearance of measles among the children. The term continued only thirteen days. The Fall Term was twelve weeks in length; the Winter Term eleven weeks. This is one of our largest and most advanced schools. In the Fall there were forty-three pupils attending, in the Winter Term forty-four. Besides the ordinary studies, there were classes in History, Geometry, Science of Common Things, Natural Philosophy, Book-Keeping, and Algebra. The order, method of teaching, interest in studies, and rapid progress made, all testify to the fidelity and ability of Mr. Jones as a teacher.

The enterprise of the people, in this District, in repairing their School-House, cannot be too highly commended. Over \$300 were raised and expended on this work. New seats and desks of modern style were procured; also new black-boards; and the house is well painted.

This school-house is now in better condition, and better fitted for the purposes of instruction, than any other in the town. The scholars purchased curtains for the windows, at their own expense. This school is also well supplied with mural maps; a fine set of Mitchell's Outline Maps having been presented by Mr. and Mrs. William Daggett.

District No. 5.—The Summer Term of this school was taught by Mrs. AUGUSTA M. McCRAE. She is a teacher of considerable experience. The teacher worked industriously. The school appeared well, and made progress in the studies pursued. The Winter Term was taught by HERVEY A. TARBELL. The school was a successful one. Mr. Tarbell worked earnestly and conscientiously. The teaching was thorough, and the order of the school was good.

District No. 6.—The Summer Term in this school was taught by EDNA L. COPELAND. The school was well disciplined and well taught. Miss Copeland was engaged to teach the school during the Winter, and she entered upon the Winter Term with a fine prospect of success. But the school was very greatly injured by unruly and disobedient boys. Boys old enough to know what respect and courtesy are due to a teacher. Boys old enough to know the importance of education and the worth of instruction. The Winter Term would have been pleasant for all, and profitable, except for the influence of a few scholars.

District No. 7.—The Summer Term in this school was taught by LIZZIE J. PUTNAM. The Winter Term was taught by CLARA M. PERKINS. In the Summer there were only ten pupils in the school; but it was a pleasant and profitable term. The number of pupils attending during the Winter Term was sixteen. Miss Perkins is an experienced and acceptable teacher. Faithful and conscientious in her work, she teaches with good results.

District No. 8.—ADDIE F. HEYWOOD taught a term of twelve weeks in this district. The school consisted of three bright little boys, the oldest, Frankie Cross, 6 years and 7 months, Charlie Miller, 6 years and 5 months, and little Lucius Cross, 4 years old. Miss Heywood marshalled this host, and taught them very pleasantly and acceptably.

District No. 9.—The school in District No. 9, is one of the best that we have. It was taught, during the Summer Term, by SARAH A. PORTER. The whole number of pupils, in the Summer, was 30. Miss

Porter is a very thorough and successful teacher. One seldom visits a school that appears better than this. The declamations, compositions, and all the exercises, at the close of the term; were interesting and excellent.

The Winter Term was taught by HARRIET M. PARKS. The number of pupils in attendance was 33. The School was closed about a week before the proper time, without the knowledge or consent of the Committee. The Winter Term of this School was not as successful as the Summer Term.

District No. 10.—In this District there has been no school this year.

District No. 11.—There were two Terms of School in this District. A Summer Term of 10 weeks, taught by LUCIA E. ADAMS. A Winter Term of 11 weeks, taught by ADDIE N. HENTER. This School, notwithstanding complaints were made by some in the District, was well taught, both terms. Both Miss ADAMS and Miss HENTER worked diligently and taught successfully.

District No. 12.—In this District the School is small—whole No. of scholars, 7. An Autumn Term of 8 weeks was taught by ELLA E. WOOD. A Winter Term of 10 weeks was taught by LIZZIE J. PUTNAM. The teachers, during both Terms, were faithful and successful. The School always appeared well, and the pupils were interested in their studies.

District No. 13.—This is an important School, and if well taught, would be an excellent one. The two Terms in this District were kept by ABBIE J. KELSEY. The teacher has not returned the Register to the Committee, and a report of the School, in detail, cannot be given. The Committee saw, in this School, little evidence of thorough, careful teaching. Every teacher should make previous preparation for the work of each day: and must be animated to awaken enthusiasm in the scholars.

District No. 14.—In this District a Summer Term was taught by ELLA M. PUTNAM. The School was very small. The chief defect

we noticed in this School was want of animation and energy in the Teacher. Miss PUTNAM, with increased energy and a lively interest in her school, would be a successful teacher.

The Winter Term is taught by HARRIET M. PARKS. This Term did not begin until Jan. 20th, 1873, and has not yet closed. It was the impression of the Committee, on a single visit, that Miss PARKS was doing a good work in this School.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Looking back over the school-year which has just closed, we might congratulate the people of Charlestown on the general condition of the schools. Some of them have been poorly taught, but, in the majority, good work has been done and good results attained. But there is much yet to be done for our schools before they can merit much praise.

Our schools are not organized and kept in existence, to give employment to sundry teachers ; but teachers are employed to give such instruction, mental and moral, and take such care of our children, that the high ends of education may be reached.

The requirements are, that schools be well governed, and well taught ; morals, manners and intellect having due attention. Success here is a duty ; nor can we afford, with so much at stake, to accept a mere desire to succeed for success itself. The teacher's calling is serious and responsible, and one should not engage in it without weighing truly its duties and obligations. We expect teachers to be diligent, to devote their energies to their schools, and, while teaching, make that their business.

The school is the field for the serious engagement of the mind of both teacher and pupil ; and, when dancing-schools or parties usurp the place of earnest work, failure will surely follow. We hope to see in every teacher an inclination to set the school work above every other.

A word to parents. Parents should, with much greater thoroughness, inform themselves as to the condition of the schools. The Registers, in scarcely a single instance, show a satisfactory record in this respect. We ask of parents a more hearty co-operation with teachers and committee, and a deeper personal interest in the schools. This interest

may be shown by visiting them more frequently, and by encouragement and direction of pupils at home. Wise parents will not permit children to become engaged and absorbed in dancing and parties and outside amusements, during the terms of school. Endeavor that a stronger interest be felt in schools and studies, by your children, than in any other work or pleasure.

A word to the citizens. We cannot speak too strongly on the subject of school-houses, and of the need there is for better school-rooms. The school-houses are in a forlorn, dilapidated condition. Very few of them have locks or latches to the doors ; there are no chairs nor tables fit for the use of the teachers, nor black-boards nor desks and seats fit for the use of the scholars. In District No. 4, there has been a praiseworthy work done. The school-house has been thoroughly repaired, new and comfortable seats and desks provided, and the house fitted up, in an excellent manner, for the purposes of education. We hope that the people of other districts will imitate this fine example.

There is a surprising indifference to the schools and their needs. We are inclined to think they will take care of themselves. There is nothing in the town of more importance ; nothing that so earnestly demands the attention of every citizen, as the cause of education.

Pitt, the great English statesman, was once applied to for some help for poor Burns. He answered, "Literature will take care of itself." "Yes," adds Mr. Southey, "it will take care of itself *and of you too*, if you do not look to it." With more truth may this be said of our public schools. They will take care of themselves, *and of us too*, if we do not look to them.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE DE NORMANDIE,

Superintending School Committee.

Report of Superintending Committee of combined Districts Nos. 2 and 3.

The Committee in charge of the village schools are happy to say that the interests committed to their oversight have enjoyed a high degree of prosperity during the past year. It is our belief that few years have ever passed, during the whole of which the schools have gone on with such uninterrupted success, as in the twelve-month that is about to close.

At the annual meeting of the District, last March, higher and more liberal ideas of our duties to the cause of education seemed to prevail, and an unusually large sum was voted to be raised by the district, in addition to that raised by the town. Beside this increased fund for the ordinary expenses of the schools, a further sum of fifty dollars was voted for procuring Maps and other illustrative apparatus. In accordance with the former vote the Prudential Committee did not hesitate to engage the most capable teachers they could find, nor to do anything which seemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the district in the best manner. In accordance with the latter, they supplied the teacher's desk in each of the school rooms with a complete set of the books to be used in that department. They also procured a full set of Guyot's wall maps for the High School room, one of Perce's 11 inch magnetic globes with illustrative implements, and a number of the Boston Public School charts for each of the schools. These have all been made useful in the teaching.

There have been three terms of school during the year ; the summer one of ten weeks, the fall term of eleven weeks, and the winter of twelve weeks. At the commencement, the committee engaged the services of MRS. M. J. PUTNAM for the North Primary School, Miss M. M. WILLIAMSON for the South Primary, and Miss H. A. HOLBROOKE for the High School. Mrs. Putnam and Miss Williamson had both served us in the same positions during the previous year, very much to the satisfaction of the district ; and in engaging them again the committee felt that their success was warranted. The end has justified them in the feeling. These ladies have labored through the year with

the full confidence of all, and much to the advantage of their pupils. The discipline of their schools has been good; and the improvement of the pupils under their charge constant and rapid.

Miss Holbrooke came to us, from Massachusetts, with a high reputation as a teacher, having received a thorough education for its duties in one of the State Normal Schools, and having taught with marked success in schools of considerable importance. In view of these qualifications, the committee felt justified in offering her a larger salary than had ever been paid in the district. They believe that the results fully demonstrate the wisdom of their action. Near the beginning of the fall term it was found that the number of classes was so great, that, to do justice to all, some assistance must be provided. For this work, we were glad to find a lady possessing also the finest qualifications, in MRS. A. PITTS, who went in two hours each day, and heard some important classes. This arrangement continued through the winter term, except that, on account of an increase in the school, Mrs. Pitts attended three hours instead of two. The district is also indebted to Mrs. Pitts for much voluntary assistance, beside what was required by the terms of her contract. Indeed this is true of both the ladies, that they spared no time nor pains to make the term a useful one to all their pupils. Nothing could be more energetic and thorough than their administration of the trusts committed to them. The discipline of the school was excellent, the instruction in all branches workmanlike and careful. The young people of the village showed their appreciation of these advantages by pressing in and filling up the school to its utmost capacity; and even the strictness of the discipline and the closeness of the requirements in respect to study and recitation, did not discourage them from attending. The final examinations were excellent. This, however, must be understood by the district, that to have a first class school for a brief period—or even for a year—is not sufficient to bring up this institution to the high standard that ought to prevail. We must go on in the future, securing skilled teachers; teachers who know the capabilities of children, and are able to impart instruction in such a manner that every effort shall tell; that every day of school shall be a step forward for each of their

pupils. This thing we fully believe to be true, that the services of trained and skilful teachers are infinitely more valuable than those of persons who have had no special instruction for that office. If the advantages of our own Normal School at Plymouth were understood and appreciated by those intending to teach, we are sure it would be filled to overflowing, and that the services of those who attended it would both be more valuable and better remunerated.

The number of scholars in the district has increased very much during the past year, and, if this continues, it will be necessary hereafter to carry on four schools throughout the year. This will conduce to the better grading of the pupils.

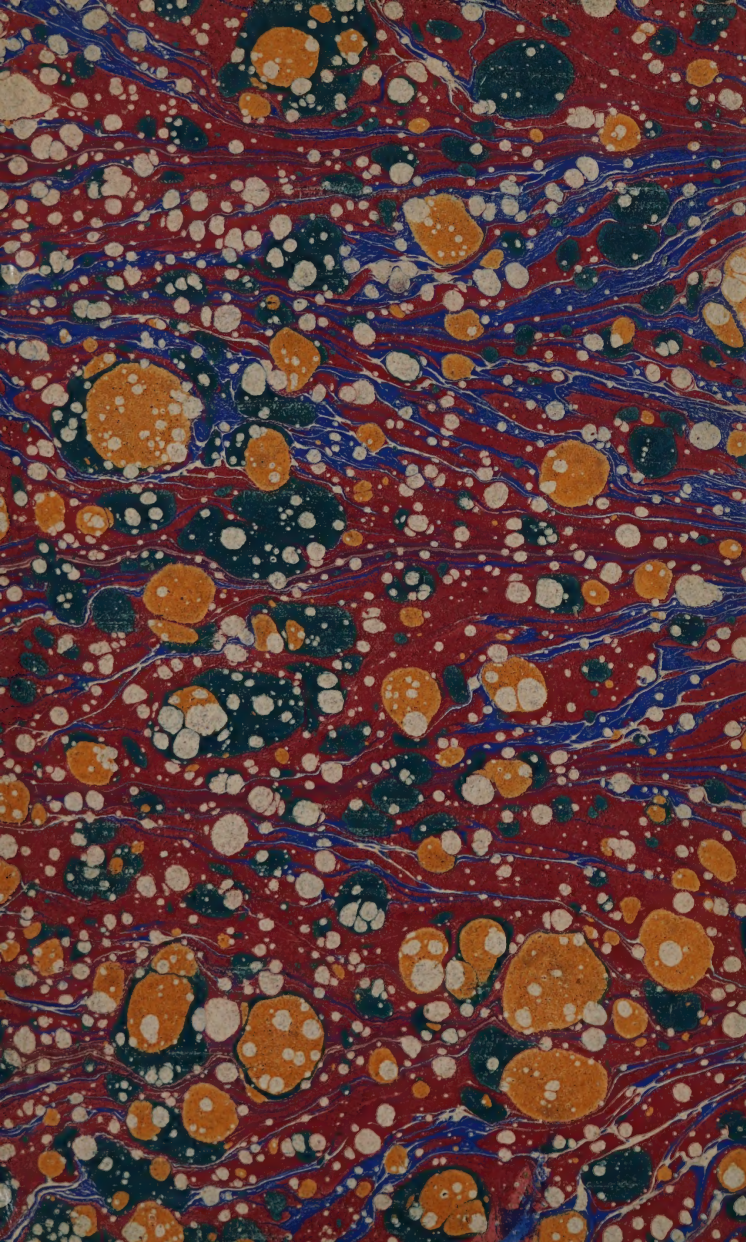
The committee would recommend the building of a strong open fence about the middle school house, as the grounds are getting to be used as a highway. This school house is in fair condition. The two others are old and considerably dilapidated. It is hoped that steps may be taken to provide better accommodations before many years.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS CHASE,

Chairman of Committee.





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